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Applicant(s):

T. SUZUKI, et al

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E. Cosimano

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

August 6, 2002

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application in response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2002.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 3 as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/091,192, filed June 10, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,226,617, the subject matter of which is incorporated by reference herein.

Page 39, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 10 as follows:

In the article specifications information database 31, there is previously stored the information concerning the article specifications, as illustrated in Fig. 9. This